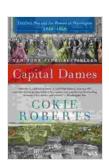
# The Unsung Heroines of the Civil War: The Women of Washington, 1848-1868

The American Civil War was a brutal conflict that claimed the lives of over 600,000 people. But behind the scenes, a group of unsung heroines made invaluable contributions to the war effort. These were the women of Washington, D.C., who provided food, clothing, and medical care to the soldiers, and who worked tirelessly to keep the city running smoothly.

The women of Washington came from all walks of life. There were wealthy socialites, working-class women, and even freed slaves. But they all shared a common desire to help their country in its time of need.



### Capital Dames: The Civil War and the Women of Washington, 1848-1868 by Cokie Roberts

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.3 out of 5 : English Language File size : 2680 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled X-Ray : Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 496 pages



One of the most important roles that women played in the war effort was providing food to the soldiers. The Union Army was often short of supplies,

and the women of Washington stepped in to fill the gap. They organized food drives, cooked meals, and baked bread for the troops.

Another important role that women played was providing clothing to the soldiers. The Union Army was often ill-equipped, and the women of Washington donated their own clothing to help keep the soldiers warm. They also sewed uniforms, blankets, and other supplies for the troops.

In addition to providing food and clothing, the women of Washington also provided medical care to the soldiers. They volunteered as nurses in hospitals, and they also helped to establish and run soup kitchens and orphanages for the countless civilians who were displaced by the war.

The women of Washington also played a vital role in keeping the city running smoothly during the war. They worked as clerks, teachers, and librarians. They also volunteered their time to help with the war effort, such as rolling bandages and sewing uniforms.

The women of Washington made a significant contribution to the Union victory in the Civil War. Their selfless service helped to keep the soldiers fed, clothed, and healthy, and their work helped to keep the city running smoothly. They are truly unsung heroines of the war.

### The Women of Washington in the Post-War Era

After the war, the women of Washington continued to play an important role in the city's development. They founded schools, hospitals, and orphanages. They also worked to improve the city's infrastructure and to provide social services to the poor and needy.

The women of Washington were instrumental in shaping the city into the vibrant and prosperous metropolis that it is today. Their legacy of service and dedication continues to inspire us today.

### **Book Excerpt**

The following excerpt is from the book *The Civil War and the Women of Washington, 1848-1868* by Mary G. Clement.



"The women of Washington were not content to sit idly by while their husbands, sons, and brothers fought on the battlefields. They were determined to do their part to help the Union cause, and they did so in a variety of ways.

Some women volunteered as nurses in hospitals, where they cared for the wounded and sick soldiers. Others worked as clerks, teachers, and librarians, freeing up men to serve in the army.

Still other women organized food drives and clothing collections, and they worked to establish and run soup kitchens and orphanages for the countless civilians who were displaced by the war.

The women of Washington made a significant contribution to the Union victory in the Civil War. Their selfless service helped to keep the soldiers fed, clothed, and healthy, and their work

## helped to keep the city running smoothly. They are truly unsung heroines of the war."

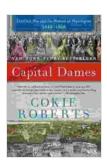
#### **About the Author**

Mary G. Clement was a historian and writer who specialized in the history of women in the United States. She was the author of several books, including *The Civil War and the Women of Washington, 1848-1868*.

Clement was a pioneer in the field of women's history. Her work helped to shed light on the important role that women played in American history.

#### **Additional Resources**

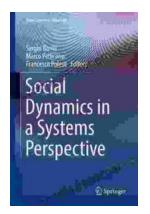
\* The Civil War and the Women of Washington, 1848-1868 by Mary G.
Clement \* The Women Who Kept Washington Running During the Civil
War by Amy Crawford \* The Underground Railroad in Washington, D.C. by
the National Park Service



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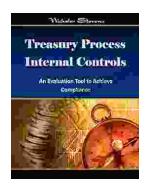
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